

Nebraska. Another former president was Harry Seward, Jr., of Lincoln, and our own D.B. "Woody" Varner, who was the moving force in his leadership in organizing the Mid-America Arts Alliance. This alliance has done tremendous things for our state, as well as the other states that are involved. Many of you have enjoyed the St. Louis Symphony in Lincoln, and that was brought to Lincoln through the work of the Mid-America Arts Alliance. Because of their support and so on the St. Louis Symphony has come to Lincoln and other cities in the area many times. They give a price break to the presenter, like the Lied Center for the Performing Arts, and they in turn pass that on to the people who buy the tickets. Other performers who have been sponsored by the alliance have included the Guthrie Theater from Minneapolis, the Kriov Ballet from Russia, and the Joffrey Ballet. Years ago I know one of the first per...one of the first ones were the Harlem Street Dancers, who performed in some of the towns in the Sandhills in Nebraska. And it brought to the people in western Nebraska a dimension that they hadn't ever experienced before. So what I'd like...and our own Audun Ravnan was also and has...continues to be on the tour of the Mid-America Arts Alliance. So what I'd like to do this morning is ask each one of you to join me in thanking these people that organized Mid-America and point out to everyone concerned the amount of money and enjoyment that they have brought to our state. Among some of the corporate donors included are Woods Charitable Foundation, the Cooper Foundation, the Peter Kiewit Charitable Trust, and just recently the Readers Digest Foundation gave the alliance more than 1 million dollars. That money comes into the State of Nebraska and all these other states and does tremendous things for Mid-America, along with bringing the arts to us, which all of us enjoy so much. You don't have to go to New York City, you can see it right here in Nebraska. So, thank you all in joining me in voting for this resolution, and thanking all these people who have been involved.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Is there anyone wishing to discuss LR 52? Seeing no one, we will proceed to vote on LR 52. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on LR 52. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 52.

SPEAKER BAACK: LR 52 is adopted. We'll now proceed to LR 53,